

Governor Recognizes Pollution Prevention Efforts of New Hampshire Businesses

Gov. Lynch announced the winners of the 2007 Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention on September 21, 2007. Established in 1994, the Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention recognizes New Hampshire businesses and organizations that have made a special commitment to the environment by successfully reducing or eliminating wastes at the source. Two companies, New Hampshire Ball Bearings of Laconia and PSNH Northern Wood Power Project at the Schiller Station, were presented with this year's Governor's Award.

A panel of judges with expertise in pollution prevention chose the facilities that demonstrated the best and most efficient pollution prevention projects, and that went above and beyond the requirements made by environmental law. These projects must reduce or eliminate wastes at their source either by increasing efficiency in the use of raw materials, energy or water, or by increasing conservation. After the judges made their decision winning applicants must pass an environmental compliance screening from DES and EPA.

New Hampshire Ball Bearings' Astro Division (NHBB) opened its doors in 1946 and has been providing spherical and rod end bearings for the aero-

space industry for the last 40 years. NHBB has dedicated itself to establishing and maintaining a world class environmental management system that includes internal and external commitments to reduce its environmental footprint. As part of the regular planning process for its environmental management system, it establishes annual goals, targets and implementation plans for pollution prevention. This year's Governor's Award recognizes NHBB's successful efforts to reduce hazardous waste by 8,768 pounds and non-hazardous waste by 191.4 tons between 2003 and 2006. Additionally, its emissions reductions were 365.4 metric tons of carbon dioxide, its energy reduction was 4.25 million kWh, and a net savings of 189,817 gallons of water. NHBB has also introduced an aggressive recycling program. The implementation of these pollution prevention company projects saved the company over \$513,000 per year.

Public Service of New Hampshire is the state's largest electric utility, serving more than 490,000 customers. PSNH is receiving a 2007 Governor's Award for its newest upgrade at its Schiller Station in Portsmouth, where it replaced a 50-megawatt coal-burning boiler with a wood burning boiler of the same capacity, and reduced the use of coal by more than 130,000 tons a year. The Northern Woods Power Project is one of the largest renewable energy repowering projects in the country. By switching from coal to wood, the facility reduced air emissions by 2,045.5 tons (including a 90 percent decrease in mercury emissions) and No.6 fuel oil by 600,000 gallons a year. In addition, the facility reduced coal ash, which would normally requires landfill disposal, by 50,000 tons per year. PSNH did not cite any additional monetary savings for itself, but noted that this project would increase the regional economy by approximately \$20 million.

Four New Hampshire businesses and organizations received Honorable Mentions for their pollution pre-



NHBB representatives receiving award from Gov. Lynch (second from right) and DES Commissioner Burack (right).



Representatives from PSNH display their award with Gov. Lynch (third from right) and DES Commissioner Burack (right).

vention efforts: Monadnock Paper Mills of Bennington, the New Hampshire Adjutant General's Department, Ripano Stoneworks of Nashua, and Southeastern Container of Hudson.

Monadnock Paper Mills installed an exchanger on its steam driven turbine that allows excess steam to be re-routed to the condensate receiver tank, which reduces energy production. The company also retrofitted all of the lighting systems, improved fiber and filler retention, and reused its waste paper broke, which reduces raw material waste. These projects have saved the company approximately \$213,000 per year.

The Adjutant General's Department targeted 19 buildings to lower utility costs, improve reliability of systems, lower maintenance costs and improve comfort levels. There were eight projects involved in this process, including implementation of an energy management system and retrofitting an existing aircraft hanger that passed LEEDs Silver accreditation. The department saved approximately \$170,000 a year.

Ripano Stoneworks Ltd. is a small company that fabricates and installs interior stone work. When moving its operation from Hudson to Nashua in 2006, Ripano decided to retrofit an older building instead of constructing a new site. It upgraded the heating systems to an infra-red system, replaced existing lighting to energy efficient T8 lamps and installed a closed loop 100 percent water recycling system, which saved approximately 30,000 gallons a day.

The Hudson branch of Southeastern Container Inc. produces mainly 20-ounce and two-liter plastic bottles. They have completed multiple projects including an air recovery system, reduction of raw material by using 3.5 grams less plastic per bottle in its manufacturing, and recirculation of the building

heat. This branch of Southeastern Container has saved the parent company over \$800,000 a year and reduced its raw material consumption by 996,000 pounds a year.

Collectively, the six companies saved approximately \$1.7 million. This does not include the \$20 million saved in community revenue from PSNH. The six companies had a combined emissions reduction of 1.7 million pounds of carbon dioxide, 3.47 million pounds of sulfur dioxide, and 696,704 pounds of nitrogen oxides. The energy reduction was more than 10.8 million kWh and more than 5.18 million gallons of water saved. Also, the companies cut their raw materials, including hazardous and non-hazardous waste, by 203,321 tons.

Congratulations to this year's winners!

New Hampshire P2 Program Recognized

The N.H. Department of Environmental Services was awarded the National Most Valuable Pollution Prevention Award during National P2 Week. The award recognizes the DES for its continued efforts to promote waste and mercury reduction and to building working relationship with motor vehicle salvage yards (MVSY). Since 2003, DES has worked to implement best management practices in all MVSY in the state to reduce the amount of fluids such as oil, gas and antifreeze that find their way into the waste streams and water systems. This program has also helped to remove 15 pounds of mercury out of the waste stream by way of mercury tilt switch removal programs.



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